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Latin America Report

(FOUO 3/81)



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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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CONTENTS

COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Grenada's Bishop Greet's Castro on Revolution Anniversary (PRELA, 3 Jan 81)	1
--	---

BRAZIL

1980 Trade Deficit Estimated Over \$3 Billion (LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST, 24 Dec 80)	3
Briefs	
Trade Deficit With U.S.	5
Coffee Exports	5
Brazil-Iraq Joint Bank	5

CUBA

People's Party of Guyana Congratulates Cuban CP (PRELA, 31 Dec 80)	6
'PRELA' Scores ILV in Bogota (Walfredo Angulo; PRELA, 25 Jan 81)	7
'BOHEMIA' Roundtable Discusses Role of Prices (BOHEMIA, 19 Dec 80)	9
Industrial Developments in Country Noted (Alberto Pozo; BOHEMIA, 19 Dec 80)	21
Society's Need To Educate Youth on Pregnancy Discussed (Celestino Alvarez Lajonchere; BOHEMIA, 28 Nov, 5 Dec 80)....	28

EL SALVADOR

Workers Leader Says People Oppose Junta, U.S. (PRELA, 30 Dec 80)	34
---	----

- a -

[III - LA - 144 FOUO]

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Human Rights Commission Secretary Kidnapped (PRELA, 26 Jan 81)	36
FMLN Reports New Front in La Union Attack (PRELA, 12 Jan 81)	37
'PRELA' Reports FMLN Control of Towns, Highways (PRELA, 13 Jan 81)	39
Briefs	
Newsman Criticizes Duarte, Army	41
Station Resumes Transmissions	41
FDR Circulates Bulletin	42
PANAMA	
Demonstrators Protest Policy at U.S. Embassies (PRELA, 17 Jan 81)	43
VENEZUELA	
Italian Foreign Minister Ends Trip, Declaration Signed (PRELA, 18 Jan 81)	45

- b -

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COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

GRENADA'S BISHOP GREETES CASTRO ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

PA050436 Havana PRELA in Spanish 2100 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] St Georges, 1 Jan (PL)--Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has sent a message to Cuban President Fidel Castro expressing the greetings and congratulations of the revolutionary government and people of Grenada to the government and people of Cuba on the occasion of the 22d anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution.

In his message, Prime Minister Bishop states that the people of Grenada join the Cuban internationalists in Grenada to celebrate the important event in the history of Cuba.

"In 1959 when the Cuban nation was liberated from the tyrannical Batista regime and its imperialist allies, all the lovers of peace, liberty, justice and progress in Latin America and the Caribbean considered it a powerful blow," the message reads.

During the past 22 years, the struggle of the Cuban people to build their destiny, forge their history conscientiously and create modern and solid socialist society has been a constant inspiration for the progressive and revolutionary peoples of Grenada and the whole world, the message states.

"As we said previously, our debt to the Cuban revolution is enormous, because there could not have been a Grenadian revolution had there not been a Cuban revolution in 1959," Bishop states.

He adds that "on this occasion, we extol the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and the militant and disciplined Cuban people for upholding in an exemplary manner their true spirit of proletarian internationalism. No other country of comparable size has offered so selflessly its material and human resources to so many needy as has revolutionary Cuba in these 20 years."

"The growing bonds of friendship and solidarity between our peoples were evidenced considerably during our recent visit to participate in the Second Congress of the PCC," he states.

He also states: "While you prepare to begin another year of socialist construction in the face of the increasing imperialist aggression against the Cuban revolution, accept once more the assurance that your people have in the people of Grenada a firm and constant friend ready to be alongside you in any situation that may arise.

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"The unity of our peoples and of our revolutions is firm and indestructible, because it is based on our joint struggle against imperialism in our region and internationally and on our mutual resolve to work for detente and peaceful coexistence internationally, and for peace, justice and the social progress of our peoples and of all the peoples of the world," he notes.

Prime Minister Bishop's message concludes by wishing the greatest successes "to the communist party, the government and the internationalist peoples of Cuba in 1981."

Two other messages were sent by the National Youth Organization (NJM) [as received] and the Grenadian-Cuban Friendship Association.

Also in commemoration of the Cuban revolution's anniversary, a rally was held in Point Saline where Grenadian and Cuban workers are building the international airport. Speakers at the event were Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and Cuban Charge D'Affaires Nelson Resanto.

A 20-minute program was also aired on the Cuban revolution over the past 20 years by the domestic station Radio Free Grenada.

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COUNTRY SECTION

BRAZIL

1980 TRADE DEFICIT ESTIMATED OVER \$3 BILLION

PY242155 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 24 Dec 80 p 7

[Text] Brasilia (DAILY POST)--Official circles are already admitting that the trade balance deficit this year will be higher than \$3 billion. Last week, the Foundation Center for Foreign Trade Studies (FUNCEX) considered that by the end of December the deficit would reach \$3.2 billion, with sales of \$19.8 billion and purchases of \$23 billion.

Data gathered by the very FUNCEX, however, show an accumulated deficit of \$4 billion during the 12 months from November of last year to October of this year, with imports of \$22.949 billion and exports of \$19.115 billion.

FUNCEX statistics, based on official information, show that, as was expected, mineral fuels--mainly oil--lubricants and similar materials were the items which weighed the most in the country's expenses October 1979-September 1980, amounting to \$10.084 billion, an increase of 74.77 percent over the same period 1978-1979.

The same survey revealed that in 1978-1979 fuels represented 35 percent of the global value of national imports, a figure which jumped to 44.2 percent in 1979-1980, always during the October to September period of one year to the next.

It's interesting to point out that, despite programs to incentivate the substitution of imported machinery during the entire 70's decade, machinery is being increasingly purchased abroad; imports jumped from \$2.326 billion October 1978-September 1979 to \$3.236 billion during the same period 1979-1980. The same occurred with electrical machinery, going up from \$1.035 billion in 1978-1979 to \$1.121 billion in 1979-1980.

Organic chemical product imports also went up considerably, from \$908 million to \$1.129 billion; fertilizers imports went up a whopping 62.3 percent, from \$396 million to \$642.9 million.

All non-ferrous minerals also continued to weigh on imports, with copper and copper products amounting to \$457.2 million, against \$340.2 million the former year, or 34.4 percent more; nickel imports went up 84.6 percent, skyrocketing from \$28.9 million to \$53.4 million from one year to the next.

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Trade Balance Behavior November 1979 to October 1980 in \$Billions

	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>
1979/Nov	1.291.335	1.710.344
Dec	1.514.199	1.953.119
1980/Jan	1.324.864	1.814.979
Feb	1.350.114	1.751.171
Mar	1.442.128	1.897.441
Apr	1.487.031	1.971.478
May	1.935.988	1.925.581
Jun	1.652.866	1.859.239
Jul	1.654.072	1.945.961
Aug	1.751.181	1.898.441
Sep	1.801.815	2.310.913
Oct (1)	1.910.244	1.990.000

Source: FUNCEX

(1) Preliminary data

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COUNTRY SECTION

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT WITH U.S.--Washington (DAILY POST)--Brazil will be accumulating, by the end of this year, a trade deficit of \$500 million with the U.S. By September, according to Trade Department figures, the U.S. had exported \$3.157 billion worth to Brazil and imported \$2.644 billion--a deficit of \$513 million for Brazil. Such a figure exceeded all the initial U.S. estimates. In 1975, Brazil's trade deficit with the U.S. had reached \$1.6 billion, but the following years only hovered around \$100 million. [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 24 Dec 80 p 7]

COFFEE EXPORTS--Sao Paulo (DAILY POST)--With sales abroad of 15 million bags this year, Brazil will beat the coffee export record with \$2.7 billion, Industry and Trade Minister Camilo Penna announced last week. He also revealed that Brazil, in 1981, would increase its production from 18 to 25 million bags. Penna emphasized the necessity of a change in coffee policies for this beefed-up production to be absorbed. As for pressure on behalf of Parana coffee-growers for better prices, he assured "I cannot separate coffee-growing in the rest of the country. In no way will there be differential treatment for Parana." [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 24 Dec 80 p 7]

BRAZIL-IRAQ JOINT BANK--Brasilia (DAILY POST)--Iraq and Brazil will form a joint banking venture next year in an effort to control financial operations between the countries and to avoid the intervention of third nations, Iraq's minister of finance said. The minister, Thamir Rezuqi al-Sheikjhi, described the banking effort as the first of its kind between Iraq and another country. He did not give details on what type of banking operations would be conducted in the joint venture, saying specifics would be worked out when a Brazilian financial mission travels to Baghdad early next year. Brazilian sources said that an initial investment of up to \$50 million would be involved in the venture, divided equally between Iraq's Rafidain Bank and the government controlled Banco do Brasil. Total commerce between Brazil and Iraq was \$2.1 billion in the first 5 months of 1980, and 95 percent of that amount involved Iraqi oil shipments to Brazil. The nations have had increasingly large commercial and technical cooperation contacts and earlier this year signed a broad nuclear cooperation treaty. Brazil has sold several hundred light armored tanks to Iraq, and the equipment is being used in the Iraqi Iranian war. "The creation of a binational bank with Brazil...shows the special orientation of (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn to give all possible support to Brazil-Iraqi relations," Rezuqi said. [Text] [PY200030 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 19 Dec 80 p 7]

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

PRELA SCORES ILV IN BOGOTA

PA261635 Havana PRELA in Spanish 1317 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Article by Walfredo Angulo]

[Text] The kidnapping of a prominent official of the Summer Institute of Linguistics (ILV) in Colombia by the 19 April Movement (M-19) again surfaces the countless and active missions of espionage and plunder of natural resources carried out in that country by this pseudoreligious U.S. organization.

The M-19 has released a document addressed to U.S. President Ronald Reagan demanding the ouster of the ILV from Colombia, where it has operated since 1959, and reporting the kidnapping of Chester Allen Bitterman, an act aimed at defending the culture and integrity of the indigenous Colombian sectors.

The guerrilla organization affirmed that in the house where the U.S. official was kidnapped records were seized as well as logs of the flights of aircraft operated by the institute, powerful radio transmitters and telephone tapping equipment. Among other things.

The M-19 termed the actions of the ILV an affront to the native community and to national sovereignty and noted that these activities are a means of institutionalizing the sacking of Colombia's natural resources.

Similar charges have been made in Colombia since the sixties by congressmen, anthropologists, religious spokesmen and heads of Indian communities.

Efigenio Garabito, Bishop of Villavicencio, charged 2 years ago that ILV aircraft transport Marijuana and that missionaries were illegally exploiting emerald mines in the eastern plains and collecting samples of strategic minerals.

The institute operates under the title "Wycliffe Bible Translators Inc." an organization supposedly dedicated to spreading the word of the bible among the communities, and it operates the "Jungle Aircraft and Radio Service," a communications and transportation enterprise.

It also has the magazine TRANSLATION, which publishes presumed research on linguistics carried out in more than 25 countries of the so-called Third World. The size of the organization is kept secret.

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According to charges, some 4,000 ILV agents operate in Colombia among almost all the indigenous tribes that still exist in the country, mainly in regions close to the border, areas of great strategic importance in view of their unexploited resources.

The base of operations of the ILV, located in Lomalinda Department, Meta, 180 km southwest of Bogota, has sophisticated communications equipment, landing strips and laboratories.

For several years there has been talk in Colombia that this pseudoreligious institute would be "dismantled," and now charges have again been made against the institute.

Five years ago, 4,000 Indians of the Vaupes region demanded the ouster of the missionaries from the country. President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen committed himself to fulfilling this demand.

However, in May 1977 the government minister (interior) authorized the activities of the ILV for 5 years and authorized it to import duty-free equipment and instruments to operate radio transmitters and provide air transportation with foreign personnel in violation of the constitution.

The M-19 has set a deadline of 19 February for all missionairies to leave Colombian territory without their equipment--the equipment will be used for local communications--and warned that Bitterman will be executed if their demands are not met.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

'BOHEMIA' ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSES ROLE OF PRICES

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 19 Dec 80 pp 16-23

[Participants in Round Table: Catalina Rubier, first vice president of the CEP; Laureano Leon, Alfonso Regalado and Ramon Gonzalez, vice presidents of the CEP; and interviewer Raul Lazo, BOHEMIA Economic Section]

[Text] Calling prices one of the basic pillars of the SDPE [Economic Management and Planning System] simply defines the content and the role that prices play within the economic calculation system. By basic pillar, we mean the basis on which most, if not all, other economic categories--costs, gain, profitability, etc.--rest and are interrelated.

The objective of this BOHEMIA Round Table is to give an overall view of the successes and problems with prices within the SDPE; that is, the evolutionary process from the creation of the CEP [State Committee for Prices] until the eve of the Second Party Congress. This objective leads us almost directly to the first question of the interview: How have the pricing tasks included in the Timetable, Theses and Resolutions of the First Party Congress gone?

Catalina Rubier: During the conclusion of the National SDPE Evaluation Meeting held in June 1980, comrade Humberto Perez indicated the outstanding fulfillment of the pricing tasks included in the Timetable, Theses and Resolutions of the First Party Congress.

At this evaluation, it was also revealed that the budgeted enterprises and units had achieved notable progress in the application of official prices for the products and services that they offer. The national rate was about 95 percent compared to 86.8 percent in the previous year.

The successful development of these tasks is an expression of the endorsement that we have received from the party and the seriousness with which the people's government organs, organizations and enterprises have been working all these years.

Even when all the tasks have been fulfilled and the rates attained by the budgeted enterprises and units give satisfactory results, the work is not free from difficulties and problems. These are analyzed and evaluated in order to enrich and improve pricing work.

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Journalist: What is the structure of the system of price organs which is in charge of price setting, application and supervision? How is the work developed and what measures will be taken to solve present difficulties?

Catalina Rubier: The organic price system of the country is made up by the CEP, the organizational price units of organisms of the Central State Administration and the local people's government organs.

The CEP develops a single price policy through methodological direction of the process of establishing and modifying prices as well as supervision and strict observance of state discipline in this area.

Each organism and local people's government organ participates in the process of setting prices or rates based on the list of products or services that have previously been established by the CEP on the basis of existing legislation.

Prices and rates are set at the supply level and proposals are made in most cases by the production enterprise. It gives its proposal to the corresponding organism or organ which evaluates it and passes it on to the CEP.

The CEP analyzes it, looking at the following fundamental aspects:

What costs are incurred and what level of profitability and gain is proposed;

Whether the price corresponds to quality standards;

Whether there are imported products with the same use and characteristics as the proposed product and the correlation between the proposed price and the price of the imported product; and

Criteria and opinions of the principal consumers.

We are referring in this case to enterprise prices for national products. If it is a retail price, other criteria are taken into consideration. In general, these are as follows:

What use does the product have in relation to comparable products that already have a price and quality standards;

What production and marketing costs does society incur; and

What sales system is implemented (regulated, parallel, free).

Once the price or rate is approved, it is published on the Official Price Lists and distributed to the enterprises so that they can use them in their sales.

There is subsequent supervision of the use of these prices.

To get an idea of the magnitude of the task, the price lists drawn up in March 1976 include about 1 million prices and rates.

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There have been logical difficulties in the work caused by new measures implemented since 1976 and developed along with the rest of the mechanisms of the SDPE.

One of the problems that persists is completion of the staffs of the organizational price units of the organisms of the Central State Administration, local people's government organs and the enterprises. However, measures are being taken to solve this problem.

It is necessary to point out the lack of pricing experience in Cuba. This has required special attention to achieve accelerated training of workers in this sector. There have been more than 100 activities with 4,000 comrades participating.

The experience of the socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, the GDR and Bulgaria, has been a valuable contribution to the work done with direct advice from specialists from those countries.

Journalist: How do you evaluate the implementation of the price lists drawn up and applied 4 years ago? What problems are there and what measures will be taken to correct them?

Ramon Gonzalez: These prices cause many problems since, in most cases, they do not reflect production and marketing costs. Some of the official prices are more than 10 years old like prices for some imported products; they do not reflect the prices in the present international market. In short, those prices did not stimulate production and economic efficiency.

Journalist: If there were so many defects, what good did it do to compile them in lists?

Ramon Gonzalez: What justifies it is perhaps its only "virtue": to permit systematization and homogeneity so that, even with those defects, economic calculation is implemented and monetary-trade relations are established between the enterprises to implement the SDPE. In the particular case of prices, making official price lists created the minimal basis to develop and improve all the direct and indirect pricing tasks. Without that basis, the development and culmination of the present price reform would not have been possible since, to mention only one example, it is necessary to have good costs to have good prices. Good costs require a homogeneous basis of value which was made possible by the official price lists.

Journalist: The enterprises have occasionally expressed difficulties in finding prices on the lists.

Alfonso Regalado: With experience and the suggestions of the organisms and local people's government organs, the price reform implemented a new organizational system for the price lists, grouping the prices based on an economic criterion. They are organized by sector and subsector and, within these, by groups of products. There was also an alphabetical guide for finding prices of products on the lists.

Journalist: Why is it necessary to have a wholesale price reform and what are its objectives?

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Ramon Gonzalez: To fulfill the agreements of the First Party Congress, our committee faced the task of reviewing wholesale prices which, as we stated, suffer from many defects.

This is a very complex task; it required extensive preparatory work which involved other organisms. For example, we worked with JUCEPLAN [Central Planning Board], the State Committee for Statistics and the State Committee for Finance to establish and implement cost regulations; this was an indispensable starting point for any price reform. Our committee also issued methodological instructions for setting prices.

Our first and most general objective for the reform is to have the new prices better reflect the socially necessary work costs. Since our economy is very dependent on foreign trade, it becomes necessary to achieve a correct balance between foreign and domestic prices.

In the second place, we proposed that the new prices assume the task of adequately measuring production efficiency to fulfill the functions of more effective distribution and redistribution. This last is very important since it is not enough to passively record the socially necessary costs; prices must stimulate economic development.

The third and equally important objective is that these new prices will make the integral application of the principles of economic calculation possible; that is, the group of enterprises that work under average or normal conditions of efficiency would have a gain and pay for their costs with their revenue. We emphasize "normal" functioning because in any price system, even the most developed, there will still be unprofitable enterprises, those whose levels of productivity and management condemn them to operate with losses or to obtain less gain than they should. There are also enterprises whose products have a social profit. In the first case, prices should play a role in analyzing the reasons for that bad management.

The fourth objective is to help establish prices more consistent with the objectives and economic policy of the state. The reform should stimulate increased production quality and promote savings in material consumption and better use of resources as well as guide productive consumption toward the use of products that offer greatest economic efficiency. This is also a price system that stimulates exportable stock, replacement of imports and the production of scarce articles.

Journalist: What were the basic criteria for the wholesale price reform?

Ramon Gonzalez: In national production, the price basis is the average sectorial cost. Nevertheless, in order to arrive at a suitable principle for setting prices, it is necessary to consolidate the expenses of the enterprises to reach a "normal cost"--that is, equal or lower than the sectorial cost that social expenses reflect.

Any higher expenses will not be justified in the prices and, therefore, will not be included in the costs. However, they will directly affect the gain. An example of this is payment of a higher electric rate due to lack of compliance with measures to save electricity or fines and sanctions imposed by arbitration.

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Planned efficiency is the second criterion in the price policy. This work is directed toward improving efficiency or reducing costs. A general cost reduction throughout the economy of about 7 percent was planned in the price reform.

The third basic criterion of the reform refers to calculation of gain under the new prices. The amount of gain that the enterprises and sectors should have was calculated based on the allocation of the gain: contributions to the budget, reward funds, the social development fund, payment of bank interest and even the possibility of establishing funds to finance investments with their own means in the next 5-year period. Under the new price system, the gain is converted into an index that will summarize management efficiency to a great extent.

The fourth criterion is related to foreign trade prices. The existing ones were 10 to 12 years old; in the reform, we have introduced the average contracted foreign prices in the period from 1974 to 1978. In general terms, there was a substantial increase in prices of imported products, especially those from the capitalist area. The price system should express the country's real acquisition costs for capitalist merchandise.

A fifth criterion is the relationship between price and production quality. The amended price lists basically cover top quality products. If the enterprise produces second-class products, there is a price discount of up to 50 percent of the gain. If it produces third-class quality, there is no gain. In short, we can say that, beginning this year, quality control and the mechanism of contracting and verifying quality will be economically necessary.

All this work on the price reform was centrally planned to establish an appropriate amount of gain in the sectors and subsectors under the different organisms. There were very precise norms that established the framework for the organisms to set new prices for national production. This was a long, complex process that put to test all the forces of the organisms, enterprises and our committee.

Journalist: Can you give us an example of the price changes that will occur as a result of the reform and the stimulation or lack of stimulation derived from it?

Alfonso Regalado: We can take ammonium nitrate as an example. Its price now is 85 pesos per ton but the amended price will be 158.62 pesos as a result of a careful analysis of the price changes of imported raw materials and an integral evaluation of costs and the net gain of the production enterprise.

Quality is another factor that is stimulated, not only as an effect of the increased prices but through its tie and close dependence on prices. In the case of ammonium nitrate, the previous list showed the price and only the description /ammonium nitrate/ [in boldface]. The new list has a detailed description of the product: ammonium nitrate, packaged in 50-kilogram plastic bags, nitrogen--34 percent, humidity --0.3 (maximum), granulometry--1 to 3 millimeters. In short, it gives a detailed explanation of the product and its quality.

The enterprises already have a quality specification on these price lists which permits them to sign contracts. If the product does not meet specifications, then a complaint can be registered.

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The reform does not cover products in isolation but through their relative worth. On the old price list, urea which has a higher nutrient content than ammonium nitrate had a lower price--57.05. Under the reform, its price increases to 215.72 pesos; that is, 57.10 pesos more than the nitrate. This makes its price reflect the higher nutrient content when used in agricultural production. The description of urea is also expanded on the new lists.

There are cases where prices decrease instead of increase: when there was a cost reduction in raw materials or when the centrally determined amount of gain for the entire economy advises it.

This makes all enterprises in an equal position to produce and achieve greater efficiency.

In the case of exportable stock, there is also a stimulus included in the prices.

Journalist: It has been said that many of the existing export prices tend to discourage rather than stimulate exportable production.

Alfonso Regalado: The present prices have that defect but the prices under the reform stimulate the enterprises to produce for export. They include the costs of the enterprise plus the expenses required to make the product available for export. The prices to stimulate exports especially consider the quality and all those aspects that can insure our products' competitiveness in foreign markets.

Journalist: How have the prices of agricultural products changed?

Laureano Leon: The supply price is the price at which the agricultural enterprises, cooperatives and individual peasants sell their production. Because of all the defects in existing prices, the immense majority of the agricultural production enterprises operated at a loss, regardless of their efficiency. Therefore, they were not economically stimulated to develop production.

The objective of the amended supply prices is to make those enterprises profitable so they have a gain if they comply with the planned level of efficiency in these prices. This is expressed in increased agricultural yield, increased productivity and use of equipment and manpower; that is, all those factors that affect production costs.

The approved supply prices under the price reform assume that present agricultural production costs decrease; this is a requirement so that the planned amount of gain can be reached.

On the price chart included in this article, we can see some of the price changes under the supply price reform.

It is not only a financial change; it involves value and use of those agricultural products.

The reform also stimulates agricultural production out of season when production costs tend to increase due to natural conditions. This will make it possible for

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(1) PRODUCTOS	(2) U.M.	(3) Precio Promedio \$		(6) % de aumento de los Precios
		(4) Actual	(5) Reforma	
7 Tabaco tapado	(17) Quintal	128.17	209.00	63
8 Tabaco Sol ensartado	"	56.28	106.00	88
9 Plátano Sol c/Palo	"	39.24	64.00	63
10 Plátano Fruta	"	3.00	5.26	75
1 Plátano Vlanda	"	3.98	8.25	107
2 Frijol Negro	"	22.00	27.50	25
3 Frijol Colorado	"	25.00	30.90	24
4 Ganado Bovino en pie p/sacrif.	(18) Tm	321.28	840.00	161
5 Leche fresca de vaca	(19) Litro	0.12	0.29	143
6 Miel de abejas	Tm	161.00	403.33	151

Some Approved Supply Prices for Agricultural Products Under Price Reform

Key:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Products | 11. Banana |
| 2. Unit of measurement | 12. Black beans |
| 3. Average price in \$ | 13. Red beans |
| 4. Present | 14. Slaughtered beef on the hoof |
| 5. Reform | 15. Fresh cow milk |
| 6. % of price increase | 16. Bee honey |
| 7. Crushed tobacco | 17. Quintal |
| 8. Cured tobacco | 18. Metric ton |
| 9. Fresh bananas on branches | 19. Liter |
| 10. Banana fruit | |

Note: The supply price is the price at which the agricultural enterprise, cooperative or peasant sells to supply enterprises.

the people to have those products, if not all year long, at least for a much longer time than now. The example of tomatoes can be cited; its supply price triples when produced out of season.

Also these prices will stimulate quality in agricultural products since the enterprise's gain is dependent on its production quality to a great degree. Naturally, those prices will also stimulate the introduction of varieties with greater yield since there is a direct and proportional relationship between increased agricultural yield and increased gain.

Journalist: What are the characteristics of the construction price reform?

Alfonso Regalado: The construction sector has some peculiarities that can be summarized as follows: its final result is a basic means; there is diversity in conditions in the construction areas and in the duration of the construction cycle; and, lastly, the size of the project determines the equipment needed.

The principles established for the price reform--reduced costs and establishment of a specific gain--are applied in the construction sector based on the above characteristics. The prices contribute to increased economic efficiency in this sector.

As to establishing construction costs, the SPUC [Uniform Budget Construction System], a system that regulates the costs of different construction operations, is applied.

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Even when most of this system can be used in the methodological work of setting prices based on the objectives proposed by the reform and with the general criteria used in other sectors of the economy for calculating the gain, construction costs are calculated based on the norms for each one of the operations and taking into account new prices for materials--cement, nails, sand, etc. Using those new costs, the construction costs and levels of gain were determined.

Journalist: In general, what are the immediate tasks in wholesale prices for the next 5-year period?

Ramon Gonzalez: We are aware that the wholesale price system that will begin to function in January 1981 is not free of mistakes and problems. Therefore, our work will naturally be aimed at carefully observing and analyzing all the factors that can influence these prices like the application of the wage reform and the process of standardization and tying wages to production--that is, the real costs and the amount of gain that will be obtained.

We are going to defend the principle of a stable price policy without denying a certain flexibility when the economy of the country or actual operations advise it. In short, we can define the next 5-year period as a time to correct possible mistakes and improve the reformed price system in order to arrive at the 5-year period 1986-90 with a solid price system.

Journalist: Going now to retail prices, we would like to know how they are set.

Catalina Rubier: Retail prices represent the most important category in the price system because of their political nature and because they are one of the mechanisms to regulate the basic objective and *raison d'etre* of the socialist economy--to satisfy the material and spiritual needs of man.

Starting with the First Party Congress and the formation of the CEP in 1976, studies were begun to establish a retail price system since this category played a role in the mechanisms of the SDPE.

In the first place, the Official Price Lists included the prices and rates in use or in effect on 31 March 1976 for products or services that were offered to the people at that time. This step constituted an advance since, in general, there was a single price for each product or service.

Prices for new products have been set by comparing them with prices for similar or analogous products, trying to guarantee the maintenance of the price level in the country with the exception of products in the parallel market.

The price policy that has been in effect since 1976 was aimed at fulfilling the agreements of the First Party Congress concerning the materialization of the economic policy in its programmatic platform, particularly referring to the special importance of the real buying power of the Cuban peso.

There has been work on the establishment of norms and procedures in order to set correct retail prices corresponding to the interests of society. These should contribute to flexibility in the supply of regulated products as the availability of products permits.

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Journalist: What socioeconomic role does the parallel market play?

Catalina Rubier: In the past, the parallel market has had different prices for food products; things like clothes, fabric, etc., have been gradually incorporated.

It should be pointed out that the increases in production go to this market after the per-capita norm established for **/essential products/** [in boldface] for the people has been guaranteed.

The prices in this market are set higher than those established for the same or similar products in the regulated market. The prices should fulfill their role. Some of the products, especially food products, are subsidized by the state since their retail prices in the regulated market are lower than the production cost plus marketing expenses. Continuation of this situation is not justified with the increases achieved in production.

This measure should be viewed as part of a policy directed toward the **/eventual elimination/** [in boldface] of the regulated market. It achieves the following objectives among others. With the principle of distribution according to work, it stimulates the workers to earn more income. It helps provide a choice to the consumer beyond the regulated market of those products that he most needs or wants, thus guaranteeing that the people use their monetary resources according to their tastes and needs. It makes an improved standard of living possible with more consumer goods. Lastly, it makes knowledge of the real demand for products possible, ridding this of psychological factors and other factors present in the regulated market.

It also should be pointed out that there is now a market of liberated products, articles that, because of production levels, can be taken out of the regulated market. There are also new imported or national products whose availability does not correspond with demand. They have new prices to give more options to the consumer based on his needs and possibilities.

The policy of establishing the parallel market for essential products at different prices as well as the establishment of the liberated market for those new products which are not considered basic agrees with the guidelines approved at the First Party Congress in the resolution "On guidelines for economic and social development in the 5-year period 1976-1980."

Journalist: On what bases will the revision of retail prices for the period 1981-1985 be carried out?

Catalina Rubier: The application of the General Wage Reform benefits all workers, especially lower-income workers.

These conditions will permit the study of some increases in retail prices, always lower than the increase in wages.

As has been said before, the prices of products of prime necessity have been frozen at the level of the first years of the revolution in spite of the inflationary process all over the world in recent years. This price freeze necessitates large state subsidies that hurt the necessary balance in domestic finances.

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In this sense, the review of retail prices will analyze this situation and try to solve it to some degree. This will mean increased prices for some products.

The bases that will govern this review of retail prices should help form a more correlated and consistent system and, in this way, eliminate present inconsistencies caused by setting these prices at different times. The objective is a planned regulation that establishes a price level which, considering the increased income of the people as well as the social and consumer supply, guarantees an improved standard of living corresponding to increased work productivity.

Journalist: What measures are being taken to detect price violations, what organizations are in charge of supervision and what sanctions are applicable in these cases?

Laureano Leon: The people have frequently complained of price violations. Although in recent times those violations have decreased as discipline has been strengthened and different measures have been taken, they still have not been eliminated.

The CEP is the organism in charge of supervising and reinforcing price discipline; it established an office for price inspection. It carries out this task with the people's government at the provincial and municipal level.

At the municipal level, collaborators help us maintain price discipline. This is a method that has not been totally exploited; we think it can increase much more.

To give an idea of the work done, we can report that there have been 16,000 inspections of establishments since 1979; 32 percent were food establishments. The chart included in this article gives a more detailed report.

At the food establishments, they verify not only whether the products are sold at official prices but also at the correct weight. Those inspections are also made by the Ministry of Domestic Trade so we have close ties with them.

About 25 percent of the inspections are in the restaurant network where, occasionally, a dish is offered at the official price but the standard is violated or changed. For example, the consumer pays the same price for a hot dog with everything--fried potatoes, mustard, pickle--even when it is missing some of these.

In coordination with the Ministry of Domestic Trade, there was a modification in the prices for snacks which is where the majority of these violations occur. To continue our example, a hot dog has one price when it has everything and costs less if it does not.

Journalist: If it is missing some of these things, do the people have the right not to pay the "total" price?

Laureano Leon: Yes, if it is missing some of those things, the price must be lowered; the full price cannot be asked.

Journalist: Occasionally the people do not complain because they do not want to ask for "problems."

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(1) Establecimientos Inspeccionados	(2) Cantidad de Establecimientos Inspeccionados	(3) Cantidad de prod. y serv. Inspeccionados	(4) % de violaciones de precios detectadas
(5) Servicios a la población	1 963	37 625	4,6
(6) Productos Alimenticios	5 118	27 404	2,4
(7) Productos Industriales	4 901	36 578	1,8
(8) Alimentos ligeros en gastronomía (1ra. Inspección)	1 599	4 489	26,2
(9) Alimentos ligeros en gastronomía (2da. Inspección)	1 558	5 224	7,0
(10) Medicamentos seleccionados	939	31 109	2,5
	16 078	142 429	4,0

Price and Rate Inspections from August 1978 to May 1979

Key:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Establishments inspected | 6. Food products |
| 2. Number of establishments inspected | 7. Industrial products |
| 3. Number of products, services inspected | 8. Snacks at restaurants (first inspection) |
| 4. % of price violations detected | 9. Snacks at restaurants (second inspection) |
| 5. Services to the people | 10. Selected medications |

Laureano Leon: The people have the right not to pay that total price and to demand the appropriate discount. This is also true, for example, when you are served yogurt in a smaller dish than indicated. These complaints by the people help maintain price discipline. It is not a question of centavos but principles, showing unacceptance, demanding their rights from price violators.

Journalist: How do you know what the hot dog should come with if it is not on the list?

Laureano Leon: The establishments have the obligation to announce the standard for each product along with the price.

Journalist: We want to thank you comrades for the courtesy you have shown in responding to this extensive interview. From your answers, we can infer not only fulfillment of the timetable and the pricing tasks for this 5-year period that is ending, but the pricing prospects for the period 1981-1985.

Basic Tasks for the CEP in the 5-Year Period 1981-1985

1. To apply the price and rate system established with the wholesale price reform as one of the essential tools of the SDPE beginning in 1981.

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2. To create conditions for the improvement and subsequent development of the price system, increasing its stimulation of quality, exports and replacement of imports, increased productivity, savings, technical progress and local and marginal production.
3. To make changes in retail prices in order to establish a consistent and correlated price system aimed at achieving, along with other factors, an improved standard of living, domestic financial balance, balance between income and expenditures and the realization, in the consumer sphere, of the principle of socialist distribution according to work.
4. To continue working so that prices help modify the present marketing systems, going from the regulated market toward the parallel and liberated market, and to revise rates for services to the people.
5. To continue increasing the technical skill of the cadres in the price system, including the CEP, organisms, local people's government organs and enterprises, in order to carry out the proposed objectives.
6. To develop and intensify inspection and supervision of wholesale and retail prices.

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CUBA

COUNTRY SECTION

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN COUNTRY NOTED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 19 Dec 80 pp 37-43

[Article by Alberto Pozo: "Five Steps to Well-being"]

[Text] The emphasis of this 5-year period was on industrialization. There were 5 years, five steps upward for the well-being of the country, for improvement of the standard of living.

Industrialization affects each citizen. When a sugar mill is constructed, it increases our attraction of foreign currency. With this foreign currency, we purchase medicine, food and clothes that we do not yet produce. When a bottling plant is constructed, packaging is guaranteed so that food, beverages or products for our personal satisfaction like cosmetics reach us. When a gravel plant or a cement plant is assembled, we are helping increase the number of houses built. Every industry, directly or indirectly, contributes to improved well-being, an improved standard of living.

Industry, then, is the primary factor to aid socioeconomic development and to increase satisfaction of the needs of the people, the cardinal rule of the socialist society.

In the 5-year period 1976-1980, the value of work tripled the value in the period 1971-1975. To be specific, there were about 300 projects throughout the country; the main ones are listed in the photo captions in this report. Let us note that each photograph represents one of the 14 provinces and the Isle of Youth.

Our intention is to stress that industrialization is the basic instrument to equalize economic development in all territories throughout the country. Let us remember that when the capitalist regime fell apart, the old province of Havana had 89 percent of the industry in the country, not counting the sugar industry. Naturally, industry was a magnet to attract social facilities. The bourgeois concentrated everything in Havana; for the rest of the country, with some exceptions, there were only the deserted fields of the large estates.

The imbalance was so extreme that socioeconomic development has still not been equalized throughout the country. Nevertheless, the provincial capitals already thrive; they have become great service centers for their respective territories. Some are more developed than others, depending on their inheritance. Las Tunas,

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Sancti Spiritus, Guantanamo and Bayamo are not at the same level as Santa Clara, Camaguey, Holguin, Santiago or Cienfuegos but each one's progress has been great.

The social development not only has obvious repercussions on the provincial capitals but on the rest of the cities. Other centers that show the effect of this industrial development--like Bahia Honda, Artemisa, Santa Cruz del Norte, Colon, Sagua, Moron, Nuevitas, Manzanillo and Moa--are beginning to stand out.

Perhaps the most encouraging thing--for its organizational value--is that the 5-year plan outlined by the First Party Congress has been practically fulfilled in spite of the fact that we have had to confront an acute capitalist crisis that even affects us because of our open economy. For 3 years--from 1976 to 1978--we suffered from sharp price cuts in sugar which constitutes more than 80 percent of our exports. We also suffered from cane "rust" which decreased our production, "blue mold" which swept our tobacco crops and "swine fever" which affected this sector which was clearly expanding.

The triumphal resistance to these calamities was supported by the collaboration of the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc in general. The growing implementation of all the elements of the SDPE, the stimulus of the political administrative division and, primarily, the installation of the people's government also helped.

In order to be precise about industrialization and construction, we must not forget that we must also, in spite of the great achievements, stress exploitation of installed capacity and production quality in addition to continuing this emphasis. One of the essential factors is fulfillment of consumption standards or establishment of standards in order to favor optimum use of resources. This leads to reduced production costs. In other words, we must favor profitability and, therefore, gain in each of the production centers.

As to construction, the spearhead of economic and social development, it is obvious that there must be a hard battle for quality in the next 5-year period which includes reduction in times for planning, construction, assembly and start up, optimum use and care of machinery and equipment and increased work productivity.

Industrial development influences the progress of the agricultural sector since the many plants that process agricultural products not only facilitate their use but multiply the supply and value of the production. Also plants that contribute directly to increased agricultural production--like those for fertilizer, cement, etc.--favor agricultural development.

This 5-year period has been characterized by increased production of produce and vegetables, especially potatoes and taros. Nevertheless, only three provinces can be proud of having reached the goal of 300 pounds per capita per year: Havana, Matanzas and Ciego de Avila. Citrus production has grown rapidly, rice is increasing and coffee is recuperating promisingly. When all conditions were right for recovery, tobacco suffered the sequel of a hurricane in Pinar del Rio. Hopefully, there will be a positive response to this low blow by nature.

Cow milk production is slowly increasing; the provinces of Havana--reaching 1 million liters daily in the spring--and Matanzas stand out. Nevertheless, the mortality

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rate for calves is still high and the subsector of meat needs improvement. Egg production is always a source of national pride. Its little sister--the production of poultry meat--is showing a sustained increase. This comes from breeding. Swine production has increased although recently an outbreak of swine fever slowed the progress. It has begun to increase again. Fishing has increased although its results are not in line with investments. It is necessary to limit it since international fishing zones have been limited.

A strong agricultural construction plan, in addition to industrial investments, supported the efforts of the primary sector. The meat-packing plants constructed or under construction can be pointed out.

In the basic sector of our present economy--sugar--there are outstanding achievements. In the first place, the construction of Cuban-designed mills where imported components are at a minimum put us in the position to become exporters of an industrial branch which has a broad market in the underdeveloped world and in some economically advanced countries.

It was a decisive triumph in our economy to have increased the average of 5.5 million tons per year in the 5-year period 1971-1975 to about 7 million tons in the period 1976-1980. This 5-year period unquestionably brought us stabilized sugar quality and the victorious campaign in saving oil. Nevertheless, we still have to fight skirmishes to reduce the consumption of firewood (very scarce in the country and in the international markets) and reduce the use of electricity from the national network to a minimum. We aren't achieving anything if we rob Peter to pay Paul!

Some major problems in the sugar sector will be a challenge for the next 5-year period. One is to find the solution to the continued downward trend in industrial yield influenced by many factors--mechanization, soil, agrotechnology, varieties; there have not been any concrete conclusions to quickly reverse this trend. Another problem is to increase cane production per caballeria in order to increase yield without spreading out with land in short supply in the country. We are already seeing results in byproducts--yeast factories and bagasse boards--but the 20 years of research should lead to a substantial advance in diversification and production.

Since we are discussing our main export sector, let us say that in this 5-year period, not only has there been awareness of export diversification but we are achieving results in some sectors. One--cement for new installations--has very promising possibilities. Nevertheless, the efforts made have been hurt occasionally by defects in the planned quality. These defects were the result of not demanding quality in raw materials and other materials used, occasionally importing products that did not meet specifications and not producing locally according to proper standards. There are also problems in technological discipline. The saying is: "Every cloud has a silver lining." Let us learn from this lesson. We cannot export what we want unless it meets the demands of the international markets.

We cannot pass over the backbone--or perhaps, more appropriately, the essential food for socioeconomic development--which is energy, in our case mainly electricity. In this 5-year period, we installed 303 megawatts; in the next 5-year period, we

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will triple this to 950 megawatts. A fight between the supply and demand for electricity in the 5-year period 1981-1985 should not surprise us; blackouts will not end. This is due to the fact that the large industrial investments carried out in the 5-year period are beginning to mature and, therefore, will consume a great deal of energy. A giant step for control of consumption has been taken with the new rate for electricity; this will have repercussions on the private sector and the results of this savings policy will be seen immediately. The rate should also affect the state sector which has the greatest consumption and the greatest waste.

As to transportation, the main achievement is fulfillment of the 5-year production plan: 9,000 buses. The Merchant Marine is approaching the respectable figure of 1 million tons of dead weight which places it equal to large, economically developed countries. In aviation, we have received modern Soviet equipment which lets us spread our wings to many countries.

On the other hand, the 5-year period has witnessed problems in passenger transportation, especially in Havana and on national trains. The first situation has been solved and there are signs of improvement on the trains. The lack of fulfillment of schedules by Cuban Airline Enterprise has been a spot on its commercial credit. It seems that this bothersome spot will disappear.

As to infrastructure, two large projects are progressing: the Central Railway and the National Highway.

In communications, there has been an obvious improvement in the national telephone system; any province can call Havana directly. Satellite communications make us equal to developed countries. However, the quality of the postal, telegraph and press distribution services has not improved. The coaxial cable advanced but more slowly than expected. Naturally, these will be priorities of the 5-year period 1981-1985.

In other categories more visibly tied to the individual standard of living, supplies have increased, especially in trade, so that rationing of industrial products is being ignored. In food products, the parallel market has grown; the peasant market can be added to this. Also the supply in the restaurant network has improved and there is work to improve the quality of service there.

The supply of domestic appliances has been impressive in this 5-year period; televisions and refrigerators are on the liberated market. The deliveries of washing machines, fans, sewing machines, blenders, etc. surpassed orders in the 5-year period. Radio supplies greatly surpass demand.

The weak link in this increase in domestic appliances is service. The rate of replacement of parts is much higher than estimated by the manufacturers. The lack of proper treatment of the equipment by the owners seems to be an influence. There are also problems in service organization. In general, there has been work to improve the situation and it is improving.

In spite of the fact that about 80,000 housing units have been built--shelter for about 350,000 Cubans--this sector remains the most critical for our standard of living. In the final years of the 5-year period, the earlier delivery of materials

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to private persons to take care of their own needs--benefit of new industrial plants--has shown that this practice can surpass the possibilities of the state brigades themselves because organization is simplified and the work force is not a problem. Because of the preceding industrialization, there are already resources to undertake the construction of 190,000 housing units in this 5-year period; this more than doubles previous records.

In education, one of the bulwarks of our socialist revolution, the construction plan has been massive enough so that, in the future, part of the resources used until now can go to needier sectors. It suffices to say that one out of every three Cubans is a student. Already we have the problem of too many university students in some fields and a shortage of skilled workers. This shows our progress and the correction we must make. As to daycare centers, a strong investment plan that has added room for 33,000 children continues.

In health, the infant mortality rate went down from 27.5 for 1,000 babies born alive to 19.3, one of the lowest in the world. Our indicators already parallel those of the developed countries. A short time ago, poliomyelitis, diphtheria and malaria were eradicated. We have 1 doctor for every 650 inhabitants. Life expectancy increased to 73.5 years for women and 70 years for men. During the 5-year period, there was a downward trend in quality in certain medical services, especially poor treatment. A systematic investigation has begun.

The material capacity of education and public health has expanded noticeably due to fulfillment of a broad investment plan. We can point out the health complex in Las Tunas, the Cienfuegos Hospital, the Guantanamo Hospital which will open soon and the hospitals in Moron and Manzanillo which are under construction, an increase of 630 beds.

An essential part of socialist society is proletarian internationalism. It has been supported by a strong investment plan in the 5-year period and resources which are the result of an increase in our overall social product. Our science and technology, carried by our internationalist men and women, are helping more than 30 Third World countries. The contingents of builders, doctors and teachers are important in number and display an attitude consistent with the principles of Marxism-Leninism and our revolution.

As our production increases, the possibilities of improving our standard of living and helping fraternal peoples increase. Our production grows to the degree that we industrialize and industrializing means improving our standard of living.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 37. Pinar del Rio--The province is noted for its efficiency in general. This ranges from sports--baseball, boxing--to tourist and restaurant facilities and agricultural production. The 30 de Noviembre mill (photo) opens to increase sugar production. Industrial installations in this 5-year period include: a semiconductor plant, acetylene plant, meat-packing plant and two pasteurization plants.

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2. p 37. Havana City--Although the plan is to decrease its relative industrial weight, it had many new installations during the 5-year period. These included: Primero de Mayo towel factory; a corrugated cardboard factory; second stage expansion of Antillana (photo); tire factory; recapping factory; synthetic antibiotic factory; Wajay woven fabric plant (still under construction); and stainless steel foundry.
3. p 39. Isle of Youth--There was a notable increase in citrus production and a citrus complex constructed. There were also: a complex of 10 ceramic factories including one for dinnerware; a carbonate plant; diesel electricity plant of 25.6 megawatts; expansion of the kaolin plant; CEATM [State Committee for Technical and Material Supply] warehouses; flour mill; fuel station and expansion of loading pier; and a feeder site for 5,000 bulls.
4. p 39. Havana--It suffices to say that it produces one-third of the produce and vegetables in the country. Some of its industrial projects include: Mariel cement plant; units 5, 6 and 7 of the Maximo Gomez thermoelectric plant; beverage complex in Santa Cruz del Norte; bagasse board factory; cardboard and Bristol board factory; soybean factory; asbestos cement complex in Artemisa; beginning of construction of a thermoelectric plant in Este de La Habana; and expansion of the Hector Molina sugar mill.
5. p 40. Matanzas--It is known for its sugar industry efficiency, milk production, citrus, produce and vegetables. Some new industries include: Bellotex textile factory; largest citrus complex in the country in Jaguey Grande; Alacranes rock-crushing plant with 1.2 million cubic meters (photo); meat-packing plant; citrus packing plant in Agramonte; toilet paper factory in Cardenas; and a straw factory.
6. p 40. Cienfuegos--It is known for the quality of its sugar industry and its diversified industry. Some new industries include: wheat mill; corn mill; Guabairo cement plant (photo); irrigation pipe plant; cellulose factory; fodder plant; units 3 and 4 of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant; expansion of the Damuji paper factory; yeast factory; and a new sugar mill (under construction).
7. p 40. Villa Clara--It is a great sugar producer and center of mechanical industry. Some of its new industries include: expansion of the Fabric Aguilar plant to produce equipment for the sugar industry; expansion of the spark plug factory in Sagua la Grande; Desembarco del Granma textile factory (photo); acetylene plant; oxygen plant; and kerosene stove factory.
8. p 41. Sancti Spiritus--It is known for its vast rice agriculture and its food industry. Some of the new investments are: Zaza food complex; condensed milk factory; metallic packaging plant; canning plant; candy factory; and Jatibonico paper complex (photo).
9. p 41. Ciego de Avila--It is characterized by its sugar potential and its agricultural production in general, especially citrus, pineapples, produce

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and vegetables. Some new industries are: a citrus packaging plant in Ciego de Avila; Primero de Enero yeast factory; Primero de Enero bagasse board factory; floor tile plant (photo); and Majagua canning factory.

10. p 41. Camaguey--It is a sugar bulwark, a livestock center and important in the production of fertilizer. Some new industries are: units 3 and 4 of the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes thermoelectric plant, the most efficient in the country; H. M. Toscano meat-packing plant; agricultural meat-packing plant (at partial capacity); meat complex (under construction); and the new Batalla de las Guasimas sugar mill (photo).
11. p 42. Las Tunas--It has strong sugar industries and land appropriate for livestock. Some new industries are: bottle factory and glass container plant; metallic structure plant (photo); Jesus Menendez bagasse board factory; soft drink factory; yeast factory at the Guiteras sugar mill; and a new sugar mill under construction.
12. p 42. Holguin--It is a center of the mechanical, nickel and sugar industry. Some new industries include: nickel plant in Punta Gorda (under construction); nickel plant in Camariocas (just beginning); mechanical complex (under construction); expansion and reconstruction of nickel plants in Moa and Nicaro; KTP-1 complex (photo); oxygen plant; and 26 de Julio agricultural implement plant (under construction).
13. p 42. Granma--It is known for its rice agriculture and livestock. Industrial projects in this 5-year period include: El Cacao rock-crushing plant with 1.2 million cubic meters; irrigation sprinkling pipe factory in Manzanillo (photo); Manzanillo battery factory; and Bayamo water pipe plant.
14. p 43. Santiago--It is another great industrial center in the country. Its new industries include: Santiago textile factory with capacity for 100 million square meters (under construction); lubricant mixing plant; units 3 and 4 of the Rente thermoelectric plant (photo); expansion of the corrugated cardboard factory; and Palma Soriano printing plant.
15. p 43. Guantanamo--It is a major coffee province which has a broad base for forestry. Its new industries include: Juan Marinello printing plant complex (photo); soft drink plant; coffee processing plant; and gray and malleable iron plant (in final construction stage).

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

SOCIETY'S NEED TO EDUCATE YOUTH ON PREGNANCY DISCUSSED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 28 Nov, 5 Dec 80

[Article by Prof Celestino Alvarez Lajonchere: "Adolescent Pregnancy"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[28 Nov 80, pp 4-7]

[Excerpts] A job for the whole society.
Medical and social risks and consequences.
Pregnancy and childbirth among adolescents.
Effect on the adolescent's child.
Social repercussions of the adolescent's pregnancy.

With this article, BOHEMIA initiates the publication of a series of works on an important and problematic aspect of sexual education. To do this, we have persuaded Prof Celestino Alvarez Lajonchere, a scientific collaborator of the Operations Committee for Sexual Education attached to the Permanent Commission devoted to Infancy and Women's Equal Rights of the People's Government National Assembly, to cooperate with us. Let us hope that discussion of this interesting topic, of such practical value, will be added to other steps being taken to obtain a more complete education for our young people and people in general, and we are ready to receive letters from our readers raising questions or doubts they may have concerning this important aspect of our life.

Adolescence is that transitional phase of life during which the child is transformed into an adult. Generally speaking, we may limit it to the period between 10 and 20 years of age.

The security, confidence and independence, in the end the freedom our society has guaranteed everyone, have increased opportunities for interaction and healthy relations among young people. These are positive elements of our society's transformations which will be consolidated and expanded. It would be useless and counterproductive--furthermore, antihistorical--to attempt to reverse this tendency.

But the irreversible reality of this greater independence of young people more and more confronts us with the problems of /adolescent sexuality/, the possibility of pregnancies that occur too soon, which is what we are going to discuss here.

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A Job for the Whole Society

For the purpose of guiding adolescent sexuality, mere bans have proven ineffective. It is much wiser to prepare adolescents so that they can make sensible use of the broad freedom they enjoy rather than to place our faith in thoughtlessly imposed bans which today would contradict the principles that govern personality development.

/The best protection for adolescents' interests and the best guarantee for their harmonious and full development is a sound moral education, a harmonious and frank relationship between parents and children, an atmosphere of solidarity and respect in the bosom of the family and in the schools/, without excluding from this interchange those aspects of it relating to sexuality. The whole society must work in this direction.

Without full preparation, ignorant of the risks of licentious behavior, without having ties established in the bosom of the family, adolescents may respond to their impulses in uncontrolled fashion. Therefore, it is the responsibility of adults, the family and the school to assume the initiative and help to guide the new generations.

In our country concrete steps are being taken in this direction. We are beginning to include general information on human reproduction and sexuality in our educational programs. This educational work will include not only the purely biological aspects of reproduction, but mainly the principles that guide the selection of partners and the stages that mark the development of affective relations between partners.

Adolescent Pregnancy and Childbirth, Medical and Social Consequences

In our country as in many others, pregnancy and childbirth are occurring at much earlier ages than in the past, which produces adverse effects from the standpoint of health and also in terms of the social consequences.

Effect on Adolescent's Child

Social Repercussions of Adolescent Pregnancy

Pregnancy During Adolescence Follows Its Course

Frequently the family decides in favor of letting the pregnancy follow its course. Sometimes this decision is imposed on the girl because, through ignorance or fear of the family's reaction, she has not informed them in time, nor has she been to see the doctor in time. In any event, support from the family reduces the risks of adolescent pregnancies, offers the girls better medical and social protection and helps them to endure the adverse circumstances we have noted.

Sometimes the family's decision to continue the pregnancy is based on anachronistic reasons: One must marry to save the family honor. A decision to marry adopted on this basis deserves serious objections. Modern societies are more flexible;

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standards of value are more tolerant and statistics from many countries with high rates of interruption of adolescent pregnancies confirm this greater tolerance.

A marriage between adolescents due to pregnancy is a mediocre if not frankly poor solution. Marriage has to be "a union voluntarily agreed on by a man and a woman with a legal attitude toward it...." This is how the Family Code now in effect defines marriage. To legally formalize a union of adolescents purely as a compromise measure is to revive relics of the old bourgeois morality without contributing a real solution. On the contrary, many of these premature marriages, agreed on due to the pressure of an unplanned pregnancy, frequently add to tensions within the family and between the partners involved and end in divorces after a short time, which leave behind children who are born socially or at least emotionally disadvantaged since, if there is an early divorce, they are deprived of the support of an affectionate couple--their parents--which is the natural medium in which the child's personality should be formed and consolidated.

In formalizing a marriage, we should respect the letter and the spirit of the Family Code now in effect and adequately prepare children and adolescents to discharge one of their greatest social responsibilities, the responsibility of being parents.

When adolescence sets in, when nature informs us that the changes that will turn a child into an adult are being accelerated, let us not close our eyes in ignorance, full of unjustifiable modesty; let us rather guide our children so that, when their time comes, they can assume the responsibilities society imposes on them in an aware and well-informed fashion.

Despite the risks and consequences of adolescent pregnancy and childbirth, the number of births by young mothers, under 20 years of age, is on the increase. This tendency is growing in Cuba, but it is also apparent in other countries. For example, in the Soviet Union births by mother under 20 years of age accounted for 3 percent [of all births] in 1963 and rose to 8 percent in 1973. That is, 8 out of every 100 mothers who gave birth in the Soviet Union in 1973 were under 20 years of age and the rise in this tendency has probably persisted.

In that same year, in Cuba, 22 out of every 100 births were by mothers under 20 years of age. In recent years studies on childbearing have demonstrated that the number of adolescent mothers in our country has continued to increase. In some provinces almost half of all births are by mothers under 20 years of age.

We cite these figures so that the magnitude of the problem may be appreciated. The number of young Cubans, under 20 years of age, has certainly increased a great deal chiefly because, during the first 10 to 12 years following the victory of our revolution, the number of births was very high and almost all of these children are under 20 years of age. That is, the number of adolescent couples is greater than ever before. But this is no more than a partial explanation for such a high number of births among very young mothers.

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[5 Dec 80, pp 4-7]

[Excerpts] Adolescent pregnancy and abortion.
So-called virgin pregnancy.
Male responsibility.

When an adolescent becomes pregnant, very often she and her family decide to interrupt the pregnancy, to resort to abortion. Continuation of some pregnancies would create so many difficulties that interruption would seem to be the only viable solution. There are, however, some risks involved in abortion which it seems to us absolutely necessary to emphasize, although we limit ourselves to only the medical aspects of the matter.

If it were for nothing more than these risks to the health of the mother and of the children she is going to want to have later, it would be well worth her while not to resort to abortion unless the case is an exceptional one.

So-Called Virgin Pregnancy

Despite the risks involved in abortion, during the past few years it has become more common among girls under 20 years of age. This has happened in practically all countries that publish statistics on it and certainly in those that do not as well. In our country, the number of abortions is dropping but this reduction is taking place only among women 20 years of age or older. Among those under 20 years of age, the number of abortions has proportionately risen; that is, /for every 100 abortions performed in hospitals, the proportion of young women involved has been increasing/.

Tasks for the Future

If the number of births and abortions is proportionately increasing among women who are too young, that is, who become pregnant before reaching the most appropriate ages for doing so, this tendency obliges us to devote more attention to this aspect of adolescent life.

/Consequently, we must plan on discussing all aspects of family life that are involved in their development, including those having to do with sex and reproduction, with our adolescents./ Most parents are themselves not well-informed and their education passes on relics of the old society that have to be superseded. Many parents, even those with a professional university background, are not very enlightened on this point and also not infrequently, in their approach to family relations and sex, an irrational attitude prevails, one too that is in contradiction with our principles insofar as they concern women's full exercise of equality.

Traditional family relations must give way to the ties established in the Family Code, especially promoting among young men the concept of mutual respect and shared responsibility in all domains of human relations.

To obtain closer relations within the family and have opportunities to help people to constructively orient themselves, we must accept the fact that adolescents

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have and will continue to have greater autonomy and ability to have relations with young people of the opposite sex. We must discuss things with our adolescents or they will do so with informants perhaps less competent, less mature and maybe less interested in encouraging the prudent and constructive behavior we desire.

As we have said, more independent interactions among adolescents confront us with the risks of premature sexual relations and anticipated pregnancies. Presented as dogmatic expressions without calm and honorable interchange, the old prohibitive formulas are ineffective. /A sound moral education, the concept of mutual respect and the serious nature of love, the principle of shared responsibility and of the fact that couples have to face the consequences of their relationships in united fashion is a more sensible way of protecting our children./

The moral atmosphere in which adults evolve, the living example accessible to children, is certainly the most important educational factor we have available to us. When this atmosphere is positive, it decisively contributes to our incorporation of the ethical principles that can make families sound and happy.

We must create and maintain fraternal ties in the family, get into the habit of calmly discussing different factors in the choice of a partner, possible alternatives, prerequisites to the formalization of a union and everything that has to do with sexuality.

The worst time to begin such a discussion in the family is precisely when serious complications have arisen, an unexpected pregnancy, for example. Altered minds cannot be reasoned with using common sense and it is not unusual for a couple in trouble not to turn to their parents, who sometimes do not find out about it either.

We must regard this reality for what it is and we adults must assume our share of the responsibility for what we get if we continue to ignore the facts and if we do not create the proper conditions for young people to behave themselves during this period of accelerated changes which we call adolescence with the least possible risk. The education that might protect young people from making really serious mistakes does not fit into a few lines. Several books have already been published and others will soon be available. A study of them by the family offers a good opportunity to create the necessary ties between parents and children, and the existence of these ties serves better than a whole library to protect adolescents from the risks of a way of life that has radically changed and, to the extent their independence has grown, their responsibility and preparation must also grow.

There is one more point that has to be discussed. Operating realistically, /the education of adolescents has to include information on ways of controlling fertilization, contraceptive techniques/. Some adults argue that, if we engage in this kind of instruction for educational purposes, it may be indirectly assumed that we are sanctioning premarital sexual relations. The experience we have had demonstrates the opposite. Polls taken in other countries—in the German Democratic Republic, for example—demonstrate that those youths who were best informed and whose general education, along with the moral aspects of human relations,

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had instructed them in the use of contraceptive techniques began to have sexual relations later, when they were older and had greater maturity. /As a teaching principle it is clear that information should be imparted to a person before he has need of it./ For example, a girl should know about menstruation before she has her first period. In that way she will know what is happening in her body and what she ought to do, with neither fear nor anxiety. Similarly, young men ought to know how to avoid pregnancy because the requirements, the prerequisites for a couple's having children are much more complex and the responsibility is much greater than for their getting married or having sexual relations.

The increase in the number of abortions and births among our adolescents should give us cause to think that they are insufficiently prepared to keep them from happening so soon. /There is little point in blaming them for their "irresponsibility."/ Maybe the major responsibility is not ours since we have kept them ignorant and treat them as if they were children when they no longer are nor do they yet have the maturity of adults?

The kind of social maturation that leads to thoughtful behavior is a slow process that is going to require tenacious educational efforts. Meanwhile, instruction in the use of contraceptives and the availability of means of controlling fertilization with help to lessen the undesirable consequences of a sexual relation without protection.

Male Responsibility

Let us look at another important aspect of the situation, one relating to the use of contraceptives in general but particularly applicable to young men, the responsibility of the young man, although we will at this time only briefly discuss it.

It is only fair for boys to recognize their responsibility. Since they are the ones who must often press their partners to engage in sexual relations for the first time, it is up to them to assume responsibility for protection through contraceptives. /It has been noted that, if young men could become pregnant, they would be more concerned with contraception./

After questioning a lot of young men, we have the impression that most of them trust to luck in their first sexual relations. They take no effective precautions.

Concerning adolescent pregnancy, we have discussed points that involve all ages. Each and every one of us has to do his bit to get young people to behave in a socially acceptable, sensible way and to protect them from complications. This is not a problem that is peculiar only to adolescents; it involves the education of the whole society.

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COUNTRY SECTION

EL SALVADOR

WORKERS LEADER SAYS PEOPLE OPPOSE JUNTA, U.S.

PA302257 Havana PRELA in Spanish 1334 GMT 30 Dec 80

[Text] Panama City, 30 Dec (PL)--The recent murder of six leaders of the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador demonstrates the desperate efforts of the Military-Christian Democratic junta, the oligarchy, and the United States to restrain a popular insurrection.

These were the words of Alfonso Martinez, leader of the Salvadoran National Labor Federation of the food, clothing, textile, and allied industries, in an interview granted to PRELA here.

Martinez, who is a member of a delegation of the Salvadoran Labor Unity Committee (CUS) which is touring various Latin American countries, asserted that in opposition to these three bloodshedding forces the people of his country and their revolutionary organizations are becoming stronger and more resolute each day.

He said that the murder of four U.S. nuns prompted the United States to propitiate a change in the power structure. In this change Jose Napoleon Duarte and Jaime Abdul Gutierrez emerged as main leaders of the Military-Christian Democratic junta.

Martinez said that Durarte is unconditionally subjected to Washington and to the fascist military, headed by Gutierrez and Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia, who direct the repression and the paramilitary groups.

The U.S. Government failed to provide the junta with a new facade and had no alternative but to resume the military and economic aid that apparently had been stopped.

Quoting Duarte's words that "I am our last card in the political life of the country," Martinez said that these words show "his long-held ambition of becoming president even though the Salvadoran masses reject him."

As workers, we repudiate the attitude of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic elite who have openly surrendered to the interfering maneuvers of the United States, the workers leader stated.

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- In the same way, we publicly denounce the Venezuelan Government's involvement in the junta's massacre of the Salvadoran working class, he said.

Nevertheless, he added, we believe that the Salvadoran people, workers, peasants, youth, and women, who play an important role in the present struggle, will know how to forcefully reply to all these maneuvers through their revolutionary organizations.

- We are sure that decisive battles will be waged soon, and therefore we, the workers are increasing our level of awareness and our fighting spirit, the CUS representative concluded.

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COUNTRY SECTION

EL SALVADOR

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SECRETARY KIDNAPPED

PA262233 Havana PRELA in Spanish 1937 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] San Jose, 26 Jan (PL)--Victor Medrano, administrative secretary of the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador [CDHES], has been kidnapped during the curfew hours in El Salvador.

The Central American Independent Press Agency (AIP) reported here today that Medrano was kidnapped by heavily armed civilians in his home in San Salvador last night.

During the curfew only police authorities are authorized to move about in the streets and dozens of unwary citizens are shot to death each night by policemen and soldiers who patrol the streets.

In cities throughout the country many kidnappings are carried out at night by heavily armed civilians who move without any problem and with impunity as occurred in Medrano's case last night.

Three months ago two other members of the CDHES were kidnapped in a similar manner and subsequently murdered so there is concern over Medrano's fate.

In recent months the CDHES has charged that it was the target of dynamite attacks and threats from the official sectors. The week before last, government Junta President Jose Napoleon Duarte accused the organization of maintaining an anti-government position.

Meanwhile, the AIP indicated that the judicial authorities reported that more than 24 murders have occurred in San Salvador, Santa Ana and San Miguel in the last few hours.

It added that the situation in Chalatenango continues unchanged. The army has admitted that a number of towns and villages in northern Chalatenango continues to be under siege by the guerrillas.

An official source told the news agency yesterday that the army shelled the areas of San Antonio de Los Ranchos, Ojo de Agua, Las Vueltas, Arcatao, Cancasque and Potonico, places which the insurgents "have occupied and from which they have laid siege to the garrisons all week long."

Nevertheless, a spokesman close to the rebel forces expressed doubts that the army had carried out that action since it is known that "for a long time the army has been unable to enter that region."

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COUNTRY SECTION

EL SALVADOR

FMLN REPORTS NEW FRONT IN LA UNION ATTACK

PA121910 Havana PRELA in Spanish 1821 GMT 12 Jan 81

[Text] San Jose, 12 Jan (PL)--The Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has reported that, with the attack on the city of La Union, a new war front was established as part of the general offensive which began on Saturday.

A report from the general headquarters of the FMLN broadcast by Radio Noticias del Continente says that yesterday the army was unable to force the rebels from their positions in the northern department of Chalatenango.

Joint forces sent by land were unable to reach Chalatenango because the FMLN fighters have total control over long stretches of the highway.

Meanwhile, the rebels continue to control the western city of Santa Ana, the second largest in the country.

Barricades have been set up at the entrance to the city, ditches have been dug on the roads leading to the city, and groups of residents and armed fighters are protecting the population.

The authorized spokesman of the FMLN general headquarters, who informs Radio Noticias del Continente of the latest events in the general offensive, stressed the opening of this new war front in the eastern part of the country.

In the port city of La Union, the army garrison was attacked and the results were favorable for the FMLN. Further details of this attack are expected. Yesterday afternoon the navy and police garrisons in that important city also were attacked.

The revolutionary forces also control the city of Perquin, where at least 150 members of the Salvadoran Army's specialized units fled from the rebels' onslaught.

Another significant accomplishment was the attack on the city of San Francisco Gotera, also in the northeast, because the Salvadoran Army's special commando unit is based there.

The major part of this city is under FMLN control, an FMLN general headquarters spokesman said, adding that the garrison of the special commando unit is under siege.

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In the capital, San Salvador, heavy fighting is underway in the outlying neighborhoods and towns: San Rafael, Apopa, Mejicanos, Cuscatancingo, Credisa, Soyapango, Santa Lucia, Santo Tomas and San Marcos.

Travelers coming from San Salvador said that yesterday morning there were strong explosions in the capital, in the area where the large San Carlos Military Reservation, which houses one of the main military garrisons, is located.

Ilopango Airport, where the air force has its headquarters, sustained considerable damage in an intense guerrilla attack, with bazookas and mortars, on Saturday night.

The FMLN reiterated that its mortars fired at that military target more than 50 times.

The FMLN general headquarters also stressed the siege being laid to the military garrison in Paraiso, Chalatenango, where more than 500 former national guardsmen joined the government ranks in the past few days.

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COUNTRY SECTION

EL SALVADOR

PRELA REPORTS FMLN CONTROL OF TOWNS, HIGHWAYS

PA132343 Havana PRELA in Spanish 2223 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] San Jose, 13 Jan (PL)--More than 50 Salvadoran political prisoners charged today that the prison authorities in that country have threatened to kill them.

A document signed by the political prisoners states that they fear for their lives, according to a report today by the Central American Independent Press Agency (AIP).

Meanwhile, a last-minute report by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) confirmed the strengthening of the rebel positions in the central, northwestern, northern regions and in various stretches of the principal international highways of the country.

In the city of Suchitoto only the army has not surrendered, because the rest of the government units have joined the insurrection, it reports.

Intense fighting is underway in the departmental capital of San Vicente, while the FMLN controls a large number of nearby towns.

In the northeastern region the revolutionary power has been strengthened in an extensive area including the towns of Torola, Arambala, Osicala and Meanguera.

Another strip from Chalatenango to Arcatao was also liberated by the FMLN, according to a late report by the AIP based on reports from the general revolutionary command.

Meanwhile, specific charges of interventionist activities stemming from the neighboring territories of Guatemala and Honduras were made here by the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR].

A Honduran air force plane staged incursions on the town and vicinity of Delicias de Concepcion.

Last year Honduran military helicopters also entered this same area located in the northern part of Morazan department.

Guatemalan air force airplanes also overflew yesterday morning the town of Candelaria in the far western part of the country, some 30 km from the city of Santa Ana, occupied by the rebels since last Saturday.

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As for the international highways, the FDR announced that the three principal highways have stretches controlled by the FMLN.

On the northern highway leading to the city of Chalatenango, trenches have been dug and barricades erected using all types of objects to block circulation.

The highway to the coast continues to be held by the FMLN up to the point of the Oro bridge.

This strategic point in San Marcos Lempa Canton allows the guerrillas to control the circulation of vehicles through that sector.

Another stretch of highway also controlled by the FMLN is at the point of the northern department of Morazan.

The FMLN control is not limited to the paved sectors of the highways but also permits it to control many access roads, it was reported.

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COUNTRY SECTION

EL SALVADOR

BRIEFS

NEWSMAN CRITICIZES DUARTE, ARMY--Mexico City, 23 Jan (PL)--Jose Napoleon Duarte is the worst leader El Salvador has had in its 50 years of dictatorship, Jorge Pinto, director of the newspaper EL INDEPENDIENTE, stated on arriving in this capital as a political exile. Pinto arrived here together with his wife, son and photographer Amaya Villalobos of the independent news agency (API). All had taken asylum in the Mexican Embassy in San Salvador after they received death threats. "All that remains there must crumble. It is evident that the majority is united against Duarte and the military. A people subjected for 50 years and kept hungry for generations is rebelling today," Pinto stated. Meanwhile, a communique released by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) press committee announced new battles to continue the offensive. The report on the insurrectional actions notes that "the great combative phase of the plan beginning the general revolutionary offensive has been fulfilled successfully." The actions carried out since 10 January, the FMLN adds, reveal the high morale of our fighters and the lofty ability of our forces who for several days managed to wipe out many positions, laid siege and harrassed the strategic military units of the Junta, blocked their communications and material supplies and intercepted the reinforcements that were sent in the few cases in which the high command of the enemy was able to deploy troops on national territory. [Text] [PA241432 Havana PRELA in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 Jan 81]

STATION RESUMES TRANSMISSIONS--San Jose, 25 Jan (PL)--Radio Liberation, official voice of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), will resume its regular transmissions shortly. It temporarily suspended its transmissions to make technical adjustments in its equipment. An announcement by the group uniting the Salvadoran revolutionary forces said that the station will resume transmissions on two simultaneous frequencies. Radio Liberation stopped transmitting early this week. The rapid advance of the revolutionary forces in radio broadcasting permitted it to go from two to five daily broadcasts. The station's programs include news bulletins, political commentaries, war bulletins by the FMLN general command, popular music and revolutionary songs, as well as other cultural expressions. The FMLN reported that, when it returns to the air shortly, it will be on 8.2 megawatts, its old frequency, and on 6.2 megawatts [both references to "megawatts" as received].

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FDR CIRCULATES BULLETIN--Panama City, 22 Dec (PL)--The first edition of EL SALVADOR LIBRE, the information bulletin of the local office of the Salvadoran Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR), was circulated in this capital today. Its first editorial, signed by FDR representative Alfredo Monge, notes that at a time when the Salvadoran people are preparing for difficult tasks ahead it is important to increase communication with the democratic and progressive sectors. The FDR of El Salvador, as the greatest expression of the democratic, popular and revolutionary unity achieved by our people in their long struggle, is aware of the strong identification of the Panamanian people with justice and its rejection of all forms of oppression, it adds. Later on, it notes that EL SALVADOR LIBRE seeks to present the FDR position in the face of the events underway in El Salvador and to reflect the political lines chosen by the Salvadoran people. We realize that the solidarity of the democratic peoples and governments with the oppressed nations' struggle for their economic and social liberation is necessary for the victory of justice, the editorial concludes. [Text] [PA232200 Havana PRELA in Spanish 2217 GMT 22 Dec 80]

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42
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COUNTRY SECTION

PANAMA

DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST POLICY AT U.S. EMBASSIES

PA170245 Havana PRELA in English 0120 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Panama City 17 Jan (PL)--Panamanian demonstrators stoned the United States Embassy here today to protest military aid to the Salvadoran regime.

The demonstrators carried signs reading "imperialist hands off El Salvador" and condemning the presence of U.S. "advisers" in that country.

The U.S. Government resumed earlier in the week its shipments of aid to the military Christian Democratic Junta. Aid had been "suspended" since 5 December after four United States Catholic women missionaries were slain in El Salvador.

Speakers from the Panamanian student movement and the committee for solidarity with the Salvadoran people repudiated the sellout position of Junta Chief Jose Napoleon Duarte, who asked President-elect Ronald Reagan to embark upon a more effective role in Salvadoran affairs.

They also denounced the use of the Panama Canal area as a base of aggression against the people of El Salvador.

Meanwhile, in Managua, United States residents of Nicaragua protested Washington military aid to the Salvadoran regime.

A large group of people carrying signs and posters, including several Maryknoll sisters, blockaded the U.S. Embassy this morning.

Representatives of the demonstrators entered the embassy, handed in a letter and asked to see Lawrence Pezzullo, the U.S. ambassador in Nicaragua.

His refusal led the demonstrators to stage a sit-in at the embassy and declared that to force them to leave, the "marines guarding the embassy would have to step in."

A public statement of the group calls on the "Central Americans to resist the imperialist position in El Salvador" and calls on "our North American copatriots" to repudiate military aid to El Salvador.

Also reported was the decision by the Salvadoran ambassador in Nicaragua to resign from his post because he is not in agreement with the situation in El Salvador.

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Roberto Castellanos said at a press conference that his resignation was due to his "disgust" with the military Christian Democratic regime.

"I am not a rat abandoning ship; but I cannot continue to sail on a ship commanded by rats," he declared.

For its part the community at the Central American Catholic University in Managua condemned United States intervention plans in El Salvador and said that such a move would mean intervention against the other Central American peoples.

In a last minute development, it was reported from San Jose, Costa Rica, that 30 Salvadoran regime soldiers raided the Jesuit University residence and roughed up two priests, while the Junta air force bombed areas near the San Vicente volcano.

The regime troops bound and knocked to the ground a former rector of the university and the dean of economics. They carefully searched the premises, the third Jesuit residence to be raided by regime forces.

The repressive force claimed to be searching for "arms and subversive propaganda." Its members made off with some personal notes and copies of a recently published book, "THE VOICE OF THOSE WITHOUT A VOICE. THE LIVING WORD OF MONSIGNOR ROMERO." They also made lists of all the people living in the building.

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144

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